



[Home](#) > [Policy Manual](#) > [Volume 3 - Humanitarian Protection and Parole](#) > Part H -
Deferred Action

Part H - Deferred Action

[Guidance](#)

[Resources \(7\)](#)

[Appendices \(0\)](#)

[Updates \(2\)](#)

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[See less](#) ^

In May 2020, USCIS retired its Adjudicator's Field Manual (AFM), a collection of our immigration policies and procedures. We are working quickly to update and incorporate all of the AFM content into the USCIS Policy Manual, the agency's centralized online repository for immigration policies. Until then, we have moved any remaining AFM content to its corresponding Policy Manual Part. To the extent that a provision in the Policy Manual conflicts with remaining AFM content or [Policy Memoranda](#), the updated information in the Policy Manual prevails. If you have questions or concerns about any discrepancies among these resources, contact PolicyFeedback@uscis.dhs.gov.

[AFM Chapter 21 - Family-based Petitions and Applications \(External\)](#)

Current as of December 22, 2025